

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Directly controlled and proportionally adjustable pressure limiting valve having a valve seat (8)-formed in a valve housing (2)-and a valve cone (4) which define, in a regulating position of the valve cone (4), a throttle gap whereby an inlet port (A) is connected with an outlet port (T), the valve cone (4)-being supported with radial play in a center-mounted armature (14)-of a proportional solenoid (10), characterized by centered cardanic axial support of the valve cone (8)-on the armature (14)-and by a guide means (40)-secured to the housing, that is axially located between the valve seat (8)-and the armature (14)-for the valve cone (4)-and that is formed with less play than the armature-side radial play.
2. (Currently Amended) The seat valve in accordance with claim 1, wherein the axial support in the armature (14)-is effected with the aid of a preferably press-fitted sphere (56).
3. (Currently Amended) The seat valve in accordance with claim 1-~~or~~-2, wherein the axial support is effected in a center range of the armature (14)-when viewed in the axial direction.
4. (Currently Amended) The seat valve in accordance with claim 3, wherein the armature (14)-has a blind bore (52)-which extends into the center range, and on the bottom (54)-of which the valve cone (4) is supported indirectly.

5. (Currently Amended) The seat valve in accordance with claim 4, wherein the bottom (54)-is provided with oblique surfaces (54).

6. (Currently Amended) Pressure limiting valve in accordance with ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein a blind bore (52)-in the armature (14), into which the valve cone (4)-plunges, is stepped, and wherein the sphere (56)-is press-fitted in the narrower range of the blind bore (52), while the other range of the blind bore (52) receives a section (60)-of the valve cone (4)-that extends with a constant diameter from the armature (14)-through the guide means (40)-secured to the housing.

7. (Currently Amended) The seat valve in accordance with ~~any one of claims 2 to 6~~claim 2, wherein the valve cone (4)-has on the rear side a central end face recess with oblique surfaces (64)-that are adapted to be taken into contact with the sphere (56).

8. (Currently Amended) The seat valve in accordance with ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the armature (14)-is penetrated by at least one throttle bore (50) whereby a valve cone-side armature chamber (46)-is connected with a rearward armature chamber (48).

9. (Currently Amended) The seat valve in accordance with ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the armature (14)-is centrally mounted along its outer circumference through the intermediary of a foil (14).

10. (Currently Amended) The seat valve in accordance with ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the valve cone (4) is floatingly received in the armature (14).

11. (Currently Amended) The seat valve in accordance with ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the armature (14) has on its rear side a centering pin (66) for a regulating spring (16).